

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR

FIRST SELECTMAN JASON E. BOWSZA

August 26, 2020

Good evening. This is First Selectman Jason Bowsza reaching out to all town residents. A copy of this message can be found on the Town's website.

Today, our local health district notified us that we have no new cases of COVID-19 in East Windsor. No new cases have been reported to us since Friday of last week. However, the Connecticut Department of Public Health is now reporting a total of 198 confirmed cases in town, with the sharp increase being driven by more than thirty confirmed-positive cases at a farm camp in town. In Connecticut, there are 52,220 cases.

The recent significant spike in cases is attributable to one hotspot outbreak. I've spoken directly with Governor Lamont about the potential impact of this outbreak on our community, and we are working with agents from the Department of Public Health, Department of Agriculture, the Department of Labor, and the Community Health Center. Our local police department has investigated circumstances at the farm camp, and we've shared the report of that investigation with state partners to ensure timely exchange of information and a coordinated response from responding state agencies.

Based on our conversation with Department of Public Health officials, we know that most – but not all – of the potentially exposed individuals have completed the period in which they could be infectious. Since the initial confirmation of infection, Community Health Center is reporting that no new cases have been documented at the farm camp.

We continue to work with state partners as part of a coordinated response to the situation and continue nightly conference calls to respond accordingly. While state health professionals are confident that the risk of community infection from this location is low, it underscores the need to follow those practices we've all heard about for months: if you can stay home, stay home; practice social distancing; wear a mask in public; wash your hands regularly; sanitize commonly touched areas as often as possible.

This is just as true for local businesses as it is for residents in our community. I've asked the police department to have patrol officers make visits to businesses in town with high traffic to remind them that they should be adhering to the health safety guidelines in their businesses, as an additional means of controlling community spread, and I've asked the Chamber of Commerce to communicate that as well.

Another key piece of controlling any outbreak of illness in East Windsor is through the utilization of testing. The Town of East Windsor continues to partner with Priority Urgent Care on Wednesday's from 10am to 3pm. Anyone is welcome, all insurance is accepted, and copays are waived. To make an appointment, please call (860) 454-0678.

I wish you continued good health,

Jason E. Bowsza First Selectman